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Your essential daily news | TUESDAY, JANUARY 26, 2016

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CONTROVERSY BREWING

Dartmouth café and
art store faces a \$47K
bylaw violation by city

metroNEWS

Owner Oliver Mahon says if he is forced to
pay the retroactive fines he would go out of
business. 'Flat out.' JEFF HARPER/METRO

Tax hike threatens firefighter increase

STAFFING

Heated debate returning to council



**Zane
Woodford**
Metro | Halifax

The issue of Halifax Fire staffing is once again before regional council on Tuesday, and it could lead to a tax hike in coming years.

Coun. Steve Craig put forward a motion at the last meeting after council voted down a recommendation from Fire Chief Doug Trussler

that recommended changing two fire stations to e-platoon and one to volunteer-only. Craig's motion — which essentially dictates that the city hire enough firefighters to fully staff all stations — was deferred pending a staff report on the true costs of the motion.

That staff report comes to council Tuesday.

The motion would mean hiring 52 firefighters, ramping up volunteer recruitment, and increasing honorariums for volunteers. That carries no cost this coming year, but would amount to almost \$5.5 million in seven years.

\$5.20

Potential increase in tax
bill for average
homeowner for 2017-18,
climbing to an extra
\$28.02 in 2022-23.

Those numbers don't faze Craig. "If you're going to increase services, it's going to cost money," he said Monday.

"I think that fire service is of value; I think that the safety of our citizens, businesses and firefighters — whether it be professional or volunteer — is important," he said.



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Crown seeks 'significant' time for activist's killer

RAYMOND TAAVEL

Andre Noel Denny's defence had hoped for time served



Haley Ryan
Metro | Halifax

Sentencing for the man who killed Halifax gay-rights activist Raymond Taavel has moved a step ahead.

In Nova Scotia Supreme Court on Monday, Andre Noel Denny appeared briefly while Justice Peter Rosinski heard both the Crown and defence had agreed on a one-and-a-half credit for Denny's time already served, which equals about six years.

However, Crown attorney James Giacomantonio said outside court the Crown and defence do not agree on a potential sentence.

"We're asking for significant time ... and they're asking for essentially time served," Giacomantonio said.

After originally being charged with second-degree murder in the beating death of Taavel that happened outside Menz & Mollyz Bar in 2012, Denny pleaded guilty to



Andre Noel Denny pleaded guilty to manslaughter last November in the death of gay-rights activist Raymond Taavel. **The Crown and defence have agreed on a one-and-a-half credit for time already served ahead of Denny's sentencing.** JEFF HARPER/METRO

manslaughter in November. Denny, a patient diagnosed with paranoid schizophrenia

and deemed not criminally responsible for his own actions in an earlier case, was issued a one-hour unescorted pass from the East Coast Forensic Hospital on April 6, 2012, but didn't return.

Giacomantonio said although Denny is still under

the jurisdiction of the review board and East Coast Forensic Hospital, the Crown is asking for any manslaughter sentence to be carried out in prison.

When asked if prison would have enough supports available for Denny, Giaco-

+ COURT DATE

Justice Peter Rosinski said he'll likely reserve a decision on Andre Noel Denny's sentence until after the Feb. 22 court date.

mantonio said he thinks they would have the right facilities "but I don't know."

Crown attorney Mark Heerema told the judge one of the three victim impact statements — two from Taavel's family and one from the LGBTQ community — references a YouTube video montage of Taavel's life.

They hope to play the video on the next Feb. 22 court date.

"It's important for the trier of fact when sentencing Mr. Denny to know all about Mr. Taavel," Giacomantonio said.

"He's obviously a well-known person in the community, and you can't just ignore the fact that this has had effects on our community that go outside of his family."

However, defence lawyer David Mahoney will contest the video since he told the court all impact submissions should only be in writing.

Mahoney also said they will submit an expanded agreed statement of facts and expert opinions on the next date, as well as a roughly 20-minute video of Menz Bar from the night of Taavel's death.

CLAYTON PARK HOMICIDE

Young man still a person of interest

The suspect released from custody in last week's Clayton Park homicide remains a person of interest, said Halifax police.

Frank John Lampe, 58, was found dead in the hallway of an apartment at 10 Harlington Cres. in Clayton Park last Thursday around 10:15 p.m.

Police arrested a 20-year-old man near a transit bus stop on Willett Street, and took him to hospital for treatment of life-threatening injuries.

The 20-year-old suspect was released from custody Friday night without charges, but Halifax Regional Police spokeswoman Const. Diane Woodworth said he is still a person of interest.

"We're not looking for anybody else," Woodworth said Monday, adding the man remains in hospital.

Police are still asking for anyone with information about the homicide to come forward.

Based on an autopsy conducted Friday afternoon, the man's death was ruled a homicide. **HALEY RYAN/METRO**

HIT AND RUN

Photo of suspect released

Halifax police are releasing a photo of a man believed to have been in a recent hit and run.

At 8:18 a.m. on Jan. 15, a 26-year old woman was walking in the parking lot of an apartment building in the 3400 block of Dutch Village Road when she was struck by a car, Halifax Regional Police said in a release.

Police said the driver stopped to help the woman to her nearby workplace and told her he'd park the car and come back, but never did. The woman says the car was a gold, four-door larger model sedan. **METRO**



Police believe this man was in a hit and run. **HANDOUT**



It's important for the trier of fact when sentencing Mr. Denny to know all about Mr. Taavel.

James Giacomantonio, crown attorney



Thomas Ted Barrett TC MEDIA

BARRETT CASE

Trial adjourned as police search for witness

The second-degree murder trial for a Cape Breton man was adjourned Monday for one week to allow time to locate a witness and for the Crown and defence to prepare legal arguments.

Thomas Ted Barrett, 40, of Glace Bay, is charged in the death of 19-year-old Brett Elizabeth McKinnon who was first reported missing in 2006. Her skeletal remains were found in 2008.

The Supreme Court judge began trial alone last week and sat for four days before recessing for the weekend.

When the trial reopened Monday, prosecutor Kathryn Pentz said the Crown is having difficulty locating witness Ashley MacDonald but stressed it is not a situation where MacDonald is avoiding police.

"We have every indication that she will testify and there

is no indication she is avoiding police," said Pentz.

She said officers from Cape Breton Regional Police are being assisted in their search for MacDonald by RCMP.

Pentz declined to specify what region of Canada police are looking for MacDonald but she is believed to be in Western Canada.

Justice Robin Gogan had previously issued a witness warrant for MacDonald's ar-

rest when she failed to contact police or the Crown last week.

Pentz said MacDonald leads a somewhat transient life which is making the search a bit more difficult.

Defence lawyer Brian Bailey said Monday it was his information that MacDonald may have recently received a cash settlement which may be adding to why police are having a difficult time locating her.

TC MEDIA

VOTING

New technique failed in byelection: HRM

Rather than employ a technique that resulted in higher voter turnout in a 2009 byelection, Halifax Regional Municipality chose a different tactic this year that it now admits did not work.

In 2009, voters in the District 6 byelection could vote electronically — by telephone or online — and they could do so up to and including election day.

But during this year's byelection in the same district, and during general elections in 2008 and 2012, e-voting ended two days before Election Day.

Dean Smith, president of Intelivote, the company that administered the municipality's e-voting in 2008, 2009 and in this past weekend's elections, said the extension of e-voting had a significant effect on voter turnout.

"They trialled it in 2009 and they were very happy with it," he said Monday of the municipality.

17%

The preliminary voter turnout for Saturday's byelection.

part because of the time of year, but also because he said about 30 per cent of people who vote electronically want to do so on election day.

His theory is that those people try to do so, and when they find out they can't, they give up.

"It might not be as (many people) as we thought, but then again, it could've been a couple hundred people more," he said.

City spokesman Brendan Elliott said Monday the municipality will review those numbers ahead of October's general election, but it's all but dismissed the idea of allowing e-voting like it did in 2009.

That's because voter turnout in the district in 2012's general election was about the same as 2009's byelection.

Even though voter turnout in general elections is always higher than in byelections, staff didn't think the extended e-voting made a difference.



It's sad for us to see that there is such a low turnout, because the municipal level of government is the level that touches citizens the most. Brendan Elliott

Up until the 2009 byelection, the average voter turnout in all HRM byelections was 23.6 per cent, and the highest ever turnout in an HRM byelection was 33.46 per cent.

Then, in 2009, 35.20 per cent of people in District 6 cast a ballot.

Based on preliminary numbers, voter turnout for Saturday's byelection was only 17 per cent.

Smith said he expected lower voter turnout this time, in

For that reason, extended e-voting wasn't even costed for this election, though Elliott said it would've been a "significant financial increase."

For this election, the municipality opted instead to try to increase turnout by allowing people to vote in advance at polling stations on two separate days.

"That was what we tried this time," Elliott said. "Clearly it didn't work."

ZANE WOODFORD/METRO

'Ice boulder' found in man's driveway

WEATHER

Snow-clearing contractors blamed for the snowy obstacle



Zane Woodford
Metro | Halifax

The week got off to a rocky start for a Halifax man who awoke to an unwelcome surprise at the end of his driveway Monday.

"I haven't had to shovel my driveway since the last snowfall but, for some reason, I get to wake up on Monday morning and I've got to spend God knows how long chipping away an ice boulder just so I can pull out of my driveway," Owen Woolnough said Monday afternoon.

Woolnough said the "boulder" appeared after city snow-clearing contractors — whom he calls "Bobcat jockeys" — did some overnight work in front of his Agricola Street home.

Monday was Woolnough's day off. He works six days a week as the head carpenter at Neptune Theatre, and likes to use his free day to spend quality time with his three-year-old son.

"That was one person in one Bobcat who just couldn't have cared less," he said.

"Instead of waking up and having a happy day today, I got to wake up and look and say, 'Hmm, am I gonna spend half my day with an ice axe in my hand ignoring my son,' or am I gonna say, 'I'm gonna ignore the boulder for now and just play with my son?'"

He believes the ice boulder is indicative of a larger problem



Owen Woolnough's driveway was still partially blocked Monday by a large hunk of ice and snow.

JEFF HARPER/METRO

with snow-clearing in Halifax Regional Municipality.

Having lived in Ottawa, Montreal, and, last winter, on P.E.I., Woolnough said Halifax is the "absolute worst" when it comes to clearing snow.

"It's just a farce," he said. "It's really a sad state of affairs when Halifax is trying to portray itself as a civic model or a leading Canadian city, or even a Canadian city."

Woolnough called the city's 311 line about the "boulder" Monday morning. He said the



This is above and beyond. This is virtually malicious.

Owen Woolnough

first dispatcher he got in touch with told him the city doesn't clear ice from people's driveways and hung up on him. He called again, and another dispatcher lodged an official complaint.

In an email Monday afternoon,

city spokeswoman Jennifer Stairs said she'd spoken with a supervisor who would "be out shortly to assess the situation and follow up with the contractor."

"The municipality isn't typically responsible for snow or ice deposited in residents' driveways, but because it sounds like this is an abnormally large chunk of snow that our contractor left behind, we will follow up," the email reads.

Monday evening, Stairs emailed again to say the "boulder" had been removed.

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Human error, faulty equipment led to prisoner's escape: Report

MARC JOSEPH PELLERIN

Fitness tests questioned as man outran four deputies

A Nova Scotia man with a history of escaping custody pulled another Houdini last month by slipping his handcuffs and breaking a link in his ankle restraints before outrunning four deputies who were just steps away.

A Nova Scotia Justice Department review released Monday says a failure to follow established protocol also contributed to Marc Joseph Pellerin's escape, which occurred as he was being moved from one van to another in the parking lot of the Truro Justice Centre on Dec. 4.

"I'm very disappointed that it happened. I think it is a concern, and our big takeaway is that we have to learn some lessons from this," said Justice Minister Diana Whalen after the document's release Monday.

Pellerin was being transferred from New Brunswick to Halifax for a court appearance. He was able to evade authorities until his recapture by the RCMP three days later in Stewiack, roughly 30 kilometres south of Truro.

The review found that Pellerin was able to free one of his hands from his handcuffs during transport due to a "unique ability to contort his hand" and was then able to break a link on the chain connecting his leg restraints, which remained secured to his ankles.

Whalen said a key element



A sheriff helps guide a prison van reversing out of its slot. JEFF HARPER/METRO FILE

was that Pellerin was added to the transport list late in the day and a proper risk assessment was not done.

The report says the deputy sheriffs were unaware that Pellerin had previously escaped from Halifax Regional Police in 2015 and had previously attempted to escape from a Halifax-area jail.

"The risk assessment would

have alerted the drivers and the sheriffs that were there to be more careful," said Whalen.

The report says Pellerin was able to jump from the van during the transfer in Truro and then flee because sheriffs failed to maintain control by gripping his upper arm.

Before he ran, two of the deputies were less than a metre away, while the other two were

just over a metre away.

Whalen admitted that Pellerin's ability to outrun four deputies while weighted down with leg restraints that were still attached raises questions about physical conditioning. She said sheriffs undergo a fitness test upon entering the service but there aren't regular follow-up tests.

"That's something for us

to look at, and I've asked that we compare to what RCMP do or the police or the military."

The report also found that checks were not performed to make sure the radios carried by the deputies and the closed-circuit video system inside the van were working properly.

As a result, only one of the four deputy sheriffs had a working radio, while another



Marc Joseph Pellerin
CONTRIBUTED

was clipped to the console of the van and a third had a dead battery. The van's video system also wasn't working and had been reported broken a month earlier.

Fred Hildebrand, the province's director of sheriff services, said the four-wheel-drive vehicle was used because of a snow storm the day of the prisoner transfer. He said the lack of video doesn't mean the deputies would have been blind inside the van.

"In that vehicle you can certainly look back and see what's going on," said Hildebrand. "Somebody should have looked to see whether his restraints were intact."

Hildebrand said the deputies involved could likely face some sort of reprimand, although no steps had been taken prior to the report's release.

Meanwhile, Whalen said, the leg restraints have been sent to the manufacturer to determine whether there was a malfunction, while training and policy are being assessed and revised to prevent similar occurrences in the future.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

IN BRIEF

Peter MacKay takes job with Toronto law firm

Former Central Nova MP and federal cabinet minister Peter MacKay is joining the Toronto law firm of Baker and McKenzie.

The law firm says MacKay is joining as a partner in Toronto and will advise on a range of matters including government and regulatory enforcement.



Peter MacKay.
JEFF HARPER/METRO

He represented the Nova Scotia riding for 18 years and served as defence, justice and foreign-affairs minister before leaving politics last May.

MacKay says the time is right to transition to the private sector and begin the next phase of his career. THE CANADIAN PRESS

A colourful catch for one Nova Scotia fisherman

They are calling it the Technicolor Dream Lobster.

Chad Graham of Westport, captain aboard the lobster-fishing boat

Chad and Sisters Two, has seen a lot of strange lobsters in his time. But on Dec. 19, fishing at the mouth of St. Mary's Bay, he hauled up a multi-coloured lobster — the most purple lobster he's ever seen, with streaks of blue and white and yellow mixed in.

He took a quick photo, measured the lobster, and it came up short — regulations don't allow fishermen to keep lobsters with a body length of under 82.5 mm. So Chad threw the little lobster back.

TC MEDIA

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Darkside of a business

DARTMOUTH

Café will be forced to close if issued hefty zoning fine



Yvette d'Entremont
Metro | Halifax

Owners of a Dartmouth art gallery and café say they will lose their business if forced to pay \$47,000 in retroactive fines for violating their property's zoning.

The Darkside art gallery/café owners Oliver Mahon and Megan Hirons Mahon go to court Tuesday afternoon against the city. Hirons Mahon said the outcome of the case will determine whether their Windmill Road business can stay afloat.

"The (\$47,000) fine? It would put us out of business. Flat out," she said.

The zoning issue has dogged the couple since before their business opened on Oct. 10, 2014. They initially applied to operate a coffee shop/restaurant but it didn't align with the land use bylaw.

The pair always intended to sell art so they applied to operate as an art gallery, but their lot was too small to accommodate the zoning requirements.

They agreed to operate as an art store with an accessory coffee business.

Less than a month after opening its doors, The Darkside was served with a com-



Darkside owner Oliver Mahon speaks to customers at the Dartmouth location on Monday. JEFF HARPER/METRO

pliance order. Hirons Mahon said city officials told them because they were selling more coffee than art, the business was more a café than an art store.

"We really have made an effort to market ourselves as an art store, as an art gallery and art is very important to us, but we also do need the food and the coffee to bring people in and to support our sales and so we brought the two together hand in hand,"



The \$47,000 fine? It would put us out of business. Flat out.

Megan Hirons Mahon

she said.

The couple said their landlord has been working with HRM to pursue a development agreement to try and resolve the issue. When they found out last week HRM was charging them a \$100 per day fine retroactive to

the day they opened, they were shocked.

"We thought we would move forward with this development agreement which would meet the city halfway in terms of getting over the hurdles that they see," she said.

"The lawyer was very surprised they decided to go ahead with the prosecution despite the fact that we are in talks to do this agreement."

The Darkside's owners told their story via social media Sunday night. Hirons Mahon said they've been overwhelmed by the support.

"Any support we can get and pressure that we can put onto the city to just deal with it reasonably we really appreciate," she said.

+ COMPLIANCE

All owners must be treated equally: City

A municipal spokeswoman said on Monday that the city needed to ensure fair and equitable treatment of all business owners in terms of compliance with regulations.

Tiffany Chase said the municipality was happy to work with The Darkside's owners to support their café endeavour and had advised them the appropriate avenue was to seek a zoning amendment through a development agreement process.

"Because of the nature of the request, we anticipated we could process the zoning amendment quite quickly," Chase said.

"The applicants appear unwilling to go this route to allow for the café, as a development agreement process has not been initiated."

Chase said the municipality has different concerns with the operation of an art store/gallery versus a café. "A café has different parking requirements, hours of operation, and can have a different impact on adjacent properties and the neighbourhood in general," she said.

"These are all issues we can deal with, and are willing to deal with, to bring them into compliance through a development agreement process."

YVETTE D'ENTREMONT/METRO

CHRONICLE HERALD

Talks between management, newsroom strikers break off

Talks between striking newsroom employees at Canada's largest independent daily newspaper and the company broke off Monday, with the union saying no further negotiations have been scheduled.

In a statement, the Halifax Typographical Union said talks between the 61 newsroom employees ended when the Halifax Chronicle Herald insisted it wants senior unionized editors moved to a non-union production centre.

The union says the production centre editors would earn \$20,000 to \$30,000 less annually after one year at their current rate of pay.

Nancy Cook, the Herald's vice-president of administration, said in a separate state-



Striking newsroom employees and their supporters block traffic from entering the Chronicle Herald building during a morning rally on Monday. JEFF HARPER/METRO

ment that the company offered to drop the contracting out language if the union accepted the production centre.

The editorial staff walked off the job at 12:01 a.m. Saturday after talks broke down earlier last week.

The Herald has said it wants to reduce wages, lengthen working hours and lay off up to 18 workers to cope with economic challenges that have beset North America's newspaper industry.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



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LA LOCHE

Bullying provoked shooting: Friend

If being bullied and teased about his big ears bothered him, he didn't let on, said those close to the 17-year-old suspect in a deadly shooting spree in northern Saskatchewan.

The teen, who can't be named under the Youth Criminal Justice Act, appeared in court Monday and is accused of orchestrating the school shooting, one of the deadliest in Canada's history, at La Loche Community School last Friday.

Childhood friend Emilio Montgrand, 25, said the alleged shooter was teased about his appearance, especially his big ears. Despite their age difference, Montgrand said the two were close. "I do blame the bullying," Montgrand said.

The tall, thin 17-year-old wore an orange jumpsuit and had his legs and hands shackled as he was brought into a packed courtroom in Meadow Lake, a community about 350 kilometres south of La Loche.

Outside court, lawyer Ian Mokuruk said he was contacted on the weekend to represent the accused.

Asked about how his client was doing, he said: "He's upset. Much like his demeanour in court, he was not at all happy, which is understandable. It's a very tragic situation."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

+ CHARGES

The suspect is charged with four counts of first-degree murder and seven counts of attempted murder. He is to be held in custody until his next court appearance Feb. 22.



New York officials say the American side of Niagara Falls may be redirected to the Canadian side to support a series of infrastructure projects. ISTOCK

U.S. considers turning off falls

NIAGARA RIVER

Water would be directed to Canada during bridge repairs

The American side of Niagara Falls may temporarily turn into a rock patch.

New York State officials are planning a public hearing on Wednesday to discuss whether to turn off the taps on their side of the waterway while replacing 115-year-old bridges.

To do this, they might stem the flow on the American side

of the falls while redirecting Niagara River water to the Canadian side.

"We would divert," Randy Simons, of the New York State Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation, said in a telephone interview. "The water would go over the Canadian side."

Whatever happens on Wednesday, the public won't see rocks instead of water on the American side of the iconic falls for several years, Simons said.

"You're looking at at least three, five, seven years," Simons said. "We don't have any funding on this."

It would take federal funding to support the project, expected to cost tens of millions of dollars, Simons said.

The agenda for the Wednesday meeting includes the presentation of three proposals, two of which call for "de-watering" of the falls, Simons said.

One of the "de-watering" proposals involves shutting the American falls down for five months and the other for seven months, Simons said.

The bridges were built in 1900 and 1901 and they have been refurbished in 1969, 1980, 2004 and 2013.

If "de-watering" occurs, it



The U.S. falls have been reduced to a trickle before. In 1969 engineers checked on erosion, and removed loose rock to strengthen faults in the foundation. NIAGARAFALLSLIVE.COM

wouldn't be the first time the falls went dry.

U.S. engineers diverted water away from the American falls for several months in 1969.

Engineers then strengthened faults in the falls' foundation to stem erosion.

The water-less falls in 1969 actually proved to be a tourism

draw and that could happen again, Simons said.

"They had a unique tourism opportunity when that happened," Simons said. "We think it would be a huge tourism draw (again). It would be a once-in-a-lifetime (opportunity)." TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE WITH FILES FROM THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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ISIL scouts soft targets, say experts

TERRORISM

Extremists taunt West on video hailing Paris attack

Europe's top police agency issued a stark warning Monday: extremists from the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) will keep attempting lethal attacks on soft targets in Europe as the militant group increasingly goes global.

Some 2-1/2 months after suicide bombers and gunmen killed 130 people in Paris, the Europol agency said, "there is every reason to expect that IS (ISIL), IS-inspired terrorists or another religiously inspired terrorist group will undertake a terrorist attack somewhere in Europe again, but particularly in France, intended to cause mass casualties among the civilian population."

The sobering conclusions reached by experts from the European Union's chief agency for law enforcement co-operation and EU member states make clear that many, perhaps

virtually all in Europe, may be at risk.

"Without reliable intelligence on the intentions, activities and contacts and travels of known terrorists it is nearly impossible to exactly predict when and where the next terrorist attack will take place, and what form it will take," the Europol report said.

Hours before the report was issued, a new video was released by ISIL celebrating the killers who carried out the Nov. 13 attacks in the French capital, while also threatening fresh bloodshed.

The grisly recording ends with one militant holding a severed head, footage of British Prime Minister David Cameron giving a speech, and ISIL warning that whoever stands with the unbelievers "will be a target for our swords."

The 17-minute video, released Sunday, shows the extent of the planning that went into the multiple attacks in Paris, which French authorities have said from the beginning were planned in Syria. All nine men seen in the video died in the Paris attacks or their aftermath. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



I do not believe that they will have a significant amount of new sympathizers after those videos.

Political scientist Gilles Kepel

MASS SHOOTING INVESTIGATION

Bomb failed in San Bernardino

A homemade bomb left behind by the husband and wife who perpetrated a mass shooting in San Bernardino, Calif., in December, failed to detonate because it was poorly constructed, two law enforcement officials said.

The failure compelled Syed Rizwan Farook, 28, and Tashfeen Malik, 29, to drive around the area after the shootings that killed 14 people. They were apparently trying to set off the remote-controlled bomb, one of the officials said.

The officials were briefed on the investigation and spoke on condition of anonymity because they weren't authorized to discuss the case publicly.

Investigators believe the couple intended to detonate the improvised explosive device — placed in a bag at the

+ PAST ATTEMPT

The plan to set off an explosive device is similar to an aborted 2012 plan by Farook and his longtime friend Enrique Marquez, who has been charged for his role in aiding the violence. The pair planned to explode pipe bombs on a freeway and then shoot emergency responders.

scene of the shooting that morning by Farook — to kill emergency responders, possibly before their attack.

The device consisted of three pipe bombs, constructed with Christmas tree lights and attached to a remote-control toy car switched to "on." The



CHANTING IN CAIRO ANNIVERSARY OF POLICE SUPPRESSION OF PROTEST CAMP

Supporters of the ousted Islamist President Mohamed Morsi chant slogans and raise their hands with a four-fingered anti-government gesture that commemorates the deadly crushing by police of a 2013 Islamist protest camp, in the Faysal district of Cairo, Egypt, on Monday. The Muslim Brotherhood is the only group that has called on its supporters to take to the streets this Monday, the anniversary of the 2011 uprising that ousted autocrat Hosni Mubarak. One poster reads: "Military rule is a shame and a betrayal."

HESHAM ELKHOSHNY/
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

GUERRILLA CONFLICT

UN to monitor any Colombia ceasefire

The UN Security Council on Monday unanimously approved a resolution to establish a political mission to monitor and verify a future ceasefire in Colombia that would end Latin America's longest-running guerrilla conflict.

The resolution welcomes the progress in negotiations between Colombia's government and the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia

and notes their joint request last week for a UN monitoring mission. In a rare move for the often-divided council, all 15 members co-sponsored the resolution.

The request sent a strong signal that a March 23 deadline to wrap up peace talks could be within reach.

"Finally, our continent will have life without conflict," the country's foreign minis-

ter, Maria Angela Holguin Cuelar, told reporters. She said her country hopes to meet the March deadline.

The resolution establishes a political mission for 12 months, and the council can consider an extension if asked by the two parties. The mission will be made up of unarmed observers from Latin American and Caribbean nations.

Decades of fighting between

guerrillas, right-wing paramilitaries and the armed forces has left more than 220,000 dead, some 40,000 disappeared and more than five million driven from their homes.

"It isn't common for a country to refer itself to the council. But it's exactly the kind of role the United Nations should be playing" in conflict resolution, British Ambassador Matthew Rycroft said. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF**U.K. company criticized for migrant wristband policy**

A private company that required asylum-seekers to wear red wristbands says it has dropped the practice after facing heavy criticism.

A statement from Clearsprings Ready Homes said it has decided to end the practice Monday. The policy had come under fire from legislators who warned it singled migrants out for possible harassment and abuse.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

U.S. grand jury absolves Planned Parenthood of wrongdoing

A Houston grand jury investigating undercover footage of Planned Parenthood found no wrongdoing Monday by the abortion provider but indicted anti-abortion activists involved in making the videos that provoked outrage among Republican leaders. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Cheap loans to ease aid gap for Syrian refugees

Faced with a chronic shortfall in Syria aid, the World Bank and other donors are promoting new ideas, including interest-free development loans for the hard-hit Middle Eastern countries hosting most refugees. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Cameroon: Four suicide attackers kill 35 people

Four suicide bombers attacked a market and town on Monday in Cameroon's Far North region near the border with Nigeria, killing at least 35 people and wounding 65 others, officials said. Cameroon officials blamed the Nigeria-based extremist group Boko Haram for the attack, saying the assailants crossed over from Nigeria.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



WALLY SANTANA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Taiwan



AFP/GETTY IMAGES

China



JIJI PRESS/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

Japan

East Asian cold snap blamed for 65 deaths

WEATHER

Countries see coldest days, heaviest snow in 50 years

Unusually cold weather in eastern Asia has been blamed for more than 65 deaths and brought the first snow to a subtropical city in southern China in almost 50 years. Here is a look at the worst cold weather to hit the region in years:

TAIWAN

Temperatures in Taiwan's capital

of Taipei plunged to a 16-year low of 4 C, killing 57 mostly elderly people, according to government officials.

Most homes in subtropical Taiwan lack central heating, and the cold caused heart trouble and breathing problems for many of the victims, a city official said.

MAINLAND CHINA

Most parts of mainland China experienced their coldest weather in decades over the weekend. The southern city of Guangzhou, which has a humid subtropical climate, saw snow on Sunday for the first time since 1967.

Temperatures fell 8 to 16 degrees from Thursday to Sunday

in parts of north China, and temperatures in central and eastern China were 6 to 8 degrees lower than average, news agency Xinhua said.

The National Meteorological Bureau forecast that temperatures would drop another 3-8 degrees on Monday.

JAPAN

Heavy snow in western and central Japan left five people dead over the weekend and possibly a sixth on Monday.

Kyodo News service said the victims included a woman who fell from a roof while removing snow, a man in a weather-related traffic accident, another

man found under a snowplow and a couple that fell into an irrigation channel. The heavy snow stranded motorists, delayed bullet-train service and caused flight cancellations.

SOUTH KOREA

Temperatures in the capital Seoul fell to -18 C on Sunday, the lowest since 2001. On Saturday, Jeju Island received 12 centimetres of snow, the heaviest since 1984, forcing the airport to close.

The shutdown stranded 86,000 people, mostly tourists, on the island and forced the cancellations of about 1,100 flights, according to the Transport Ministry and airport officials. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

REFUGEE CRISIS

Banksy critiques France

British graffiti artist Banksy is tackling the refugee crisis once again, with a new mural criticizing the use of tear gas against migrants in "The Jungle" camp in Calais, France.

In the new piece, Banksy depicts the young girl from the play *Les Misérables* with tears in her eyes as plumes of tear gas rise up from a canister beneath her. A ripped French flag is also painted behind her. The image appeared opposite the French embassy in Knightsbridge, London, overnight on Saturday, *The Guardian* reported.

It is the first time Banksy has made an interactive mural.

When passersby hold their phones over a QR code beneath the image, they are directed to a YouTube video of a nighttime raid on the Calais camp on Jan. 5.

Workers boarded up the mural, but the boards were removed shortly thereafter, the BBC reported. The mural has been damaged after attempts have been made to take it down.

This isn't the first time Banksy has tackled the refugee crisis.

In December, the artist depicted Apple founder Steve Jobs in a mural at the Calais camp itself. The image shows Jobs carrying a garbage bag over his shoulder and an early Apple computer. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



A new Banksy artwork displayed opposite the French embassy on Monday in London, England. GETTY IMAGES

ADVENTURING

British explorer dies on solo Antarctic trek

A British adventurer attempting to become the first person to cross the Antarctic alone and unsupported has died after collapsing from exhaustion within miles of his goal.

Former army officer Henry Worsley was just 48 kilometres from the end of the almost 1,600-kilometre trek when he called for help and was airlifted off the ice Friday.

His family said Monday that Worsley, 55, died "following complete organ failure" at a hospital in Punta Arenas, Chile. He had undergone surgery a day

earlier for bacterial peritonitis — an infection of the tissue lining the abdomen, which can lead to septic shock.

Pulling supplies on a sled, Worsley was trying to complete Ernest Shackleton's attempt of a century ago to cross the Antarctic via the South Pole. Shackleton's journey turned into a desperate survival mission after his ship, the *Endurance*, was trapped and sunk by pack ice in

1915, leaving his team stranded.

His successful bid to reach help at a remote South Atlantic whaling station and rescue his men is considered a heroic feat of endurance.

Worsley's ancestor, Frank Worsley, was skipper of the *Endurance* on Shackleton's voyage.

Henry Worsley decided to abandon his journey Friday after being unable



Henry Worsley
STEVE PARSONS/PA VIA
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Weeknights at 6 Hannah counts down the HOTTEST songs of the day.

6 Belly ft The Weeknd
5 Travis Scott
4 Fetty Wap ft Remmy Boyz
3 Twenty One Pilots
2 Justin Bieber
1 The Chainsmokers ft Rozes

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LOTTERY WINNINGS

What to do with a jackpot

When it comes to buying lottery tickets, players put plenty of thought into picking their numbers. But how much goes into the plan if they actually win? Here's what financial experts say you should do next:

1 Cool off for 30 days:

That's the suggestion of Larry Moser, regional manager with BMO Investor Line, who says the prize announcement can wreak havoc on your personal life.

2 Get professional help:

Find a lawyer or financial adviser to help structure a financial plan.

3 Calculate income needs:

A financial plan will help you determine how much money you need to maintain the lifestyle you want to lead.

4 Sort out giveaways:

With family and friends, one idea is a one-time only gift, says Ted Rechtshaffen, president and CEO, TriDelta Financial. For charities, he recommends setting up a charitable foundation to generate tax credits.

5 Invest tax-efficiently:

Investments can range from a diverse equity portfolio to a permanent life insurance policy, which allows you to grow your money tax-free.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



SUPER BOWL RESIDENTS CHARGE SKY-HIGH RENTS

Therese Lehane, playing with her dog outside her house in San Jose, Calif., is renting out two of her rooms to Super Bowl news crews. In the San Francisco Bay Area, where high rents are legend, residents looking to make a quick buck are offering their homes at super-sized prices to the one million visitors expected for the Super Bowl festivities. A luxury 8,500-square-foot home is listed for \$10,000 US a night, while a 400-square-foot cottage is going for \$3,900 US for the three-night weekend. A four-bedroom apartment near "Super Bowl City" is listed at \$1,495 US a night, with a minimum six night stay. And a treehouse for two in a 150-year-old oak tree a half hour drive from downtown is going for \$495 US a night. MARCIO JOSE SANCHEZ/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

McDonald's sales rise

McDonald's, fighting to win back customers, says offering breakfast around the clock helped jolt its sales which rose 5.7 per cent in the U.S. for the final three months of 2015. It was its best showing since early 2012. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Medical pot prices cut

Licensed marijuana producer Brodcan is slashing the price of all six of its medical cannabis strains to \$5 a gram, citing a desire to make medicine more affordable for patients. The products previously cost \$7.50 a gram. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Postmedia signs new deal

Mogo Finance Technology has signed a three-year deal to get at least \$50 million of promotional commitments from Postmedia, which will get a percentage of Mogo's revenue and rights to buy stock in the company. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Too soon to close door on TPP deal: Freeland

TRADE

Canada has two years to ratify accord after signing

The federal government has confirmed that it intends to sign the controversial Trans-Pacific Partnership trade deal at a meeting on Feb. 4 in New Zealand.

But when it comes to ratification of the 12-country treaty, the Liberals are still perched squarely atop the fence.

"Just as it is too soon to endorse the TPP, it is also too soon to close the door," International Trade Minister Chrystia Freeland wrote Monday in an open letter posted on her department's website.

"Signing does not equal ratifying.... Signing is simply a technical step in the process, allowing the TPP text to be

tabled in Parliament for consideration and debate before any final decision is made."

Only a majority vote in the House of Commons would ensure that Canada seals the deal, she added. She has also requested a thorough, transparent study of the agreement by parliamentary committee. Freeland said each country



Chrystia Freeland
THE CANADIAN PRESS

has up to two years to consider ratification before making a final decision. She pointed out that by signing the deal Canada will keep its status as a potential full partner in the agreement.

Trade ministers from the TPP's partner countries have been invited to sign the deal on Feb. 4 in Auckland.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

market minute

	DOLLAR 70.08¢ (-0.59¢)
	TSX 12,143.16 (-246.42)
	OIL \$30.34 US (-\$1.85)
	GOLD \$1,105.30 US (+\$9)

NATURAL GAS: \$2.155 US (+1.4¢)
DOW JONES: 15,885.22 (-208.29)

ENVIRONMENT

Walmart Canada introduces 5-cent charge for plastic bags

Walmart Canada will begin to charge customers for plastic bags as part of its strategy for cutting the amount of plastic that ends up in landfills.

Beginning on Feb. 9, customers will be charged five cents each for plastic bags, with reusable bags available for a discounted rate of 25 cents each.

The company said that the introduction of a small fee in other countries has helped Walmart to reduce the number of plastic bags by more than half.

Walmart says some of the proceeds from the new charge will go toward supporting recycling



initiatives for grocery bags and other thin plastic objects.

The company said it's also going to improve in-store recycling and collection programs and work with suppliers to find ways of removing plastic from its packaging.

Walmart Canada has 397 stores and serves more than 1.2 million customers per day.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Walmart says a small fee has reduced plastic bags by half in other countries. ISTOCK

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ROSEMARY WESTWOOD

metroview

Twitter is not the digital equivalent of the public park

Twitter is not walk in the park.

Not figuratively, for the many women subject to a regular dose of rape and death threats — but not literally, either.

It's not the digital equivalent of the public park, or public sphere, as has been suggested by pundits analyzing the not-guilty verdict handed down Friday in the country's first-known Twitter harassment case.

Far from being the wild west or the great wide open, Twitter is a private company, operating for profits. And anyone lauding the Twitter verdict as a victory for freedom of speech should expect those celebrations to be short-lived.

Because, on Twitter, exactly the kind of freedom of speech protected by the verdict is bad for business.

The background: Gregory Alan Elliott had been charged with criminal harassment after he sent numerous tweets to and about two women in 2012. The women testified that they feared for their safety. Judge Brent Knazan believed the women were harassed, and that they did fear for their safety, but he found that fear was not reasonable or proved beyond a reasonable doubt.

But Elliott, who boasted after the verdict that his

tweets were "within the law," should note that his actions violate Twitter's own harassment policy. The company is setting the bar much lower than the courts, in an attempt to fight abuse of exactly the kind he spewed.

Last year, Twitter's then-CEO admitted that "We suck at dealing with abuse and trolls on the platform, and we've sucked at it for years."

Twitter has since been making efforts to change that, and last month it released yet another update to its rules. Those changes include making it easier for users to report abuse, and for Twitter to lock accounts and force offensive tweeters to delete their comments.

But even so, the company is walking a fine line. Trolls are bad PR and a bad user experience, but many users demand Twitter uphold principles of free speech, even though, unlike Judge Knazan, it's under no legal obligation to do so. Hence the site's somewhat self-negating claim that its "taken several steps to fight abuse in order to protect freedom of expression."

But Twitter won't be able to have its cake and eat it, too. Now that we know the courts aren't the place to police Twitter harassment, it's even more obvious that job falls to Twitter — which, after all, runs the place.

THE BIG THING: MEDIA MELTDOWN

A trickle of job losses in Canadian news media became a gush this month as Postmedia, Torstar and now Rogers Media are together showing hundreds of employees the door. Meanwhile, serious labour strife has broken out at the Halifax Chronicle Herald, and some of the country's oldest daily newspapers are being tossed onto doorsteps, in print form, for the very last time. What's the scoop on the media's troubles?

NEED-TO-KNOW NUMBERS

Rogers Media revealed Monday it's nixing 200 jobs in publishing, broadcasting and administration, though exactly who's getting the axe hasn't been announced yet.

Metroland Media announced Monday the Guelph Mercury will close its print edition and let go of 23 full-time and three part-time employees. The Toronto Star announced plans in January to consolidate its printing in one plant; cutting 300 jobs, including 13 editorial positions. (Metroland, like Metro News, is part of Torstar).

Postmedia said goodbye to 90 employees last week and merged the staff of its formerly competing Sun and Postmedia newspapers in Edmonton, Ottawa, Vancouver and Calgary.

La Presse, a major French-language daily, shut its weekday print edition in December, making 158 employees redundant.

Bell Media laid off 380 employees in November, most of whom worked in media production and editorial roles.

What's old is news again

Much has been made of Postmedia's plans to merge daily paper operations in major cities. But the industry has gone through periods of consolidation before — throughout the 19th and 20th centuries, in fact. Have you ever noticed how many newspapers have double-barrelled names? The Saskatoon Daily Star and The Daily Phoenix became the Saskatoon StarPhoenix in 1928. The Toronto Mail and Toronto Empire became the Mail and Empire in 1895, and in 1936 merged with the Globe, creating today's Globe and Mail. There are similar stories about the Times Colonist in Victoria (merged in 1980), the Halifax Chronicle Herald (1949), and maybe your hometown paper, too.

THE BIG NUMBER

\$650M

The problems at Postmedia, Canada's largest newspaper chain, can be summed up in one word: debt. Last week's cuts were just one part of a plan to shave \$80 million from the company's costs by the middle of next year — and even that won't get it back into the black. It owes more than half a billion dollars. The interest payments alone are about \$60 million per year, much of it going to American hedge funds that own part of the company. Moody's Investors Service downgraded its debt rating for Postmedia this week, saying its purchase of Sun Media last spring had a worse than expected impact on the books. Moody's also expressed doubt that Postmedia would be able to refinance its debt before it comes due in 2017 and 2018. SOURCE: REPORT ON BUSINESS

Cause of the crisis

Perhaps surprisingly, the average time Canadians spend reading the newspaper has stayed almost the same since 2000, at around three hours per week, according to the Interactive Advertising Bureau of Canada. And 70 per cent of us were still staining our fingers with newsprint on a regular basis in 2013, says a PricewaterhouseCoopers report. It's the advertisers, more so than readers, who have fled to the web. PwC analysts expect print advertising revenue in Canada to decline from \$2.7 billion in 2008 to \$1.7 billion by 2017 — a billion-dollar loss. Where is that money going? Facebook and Google together hold more than 55 per cent of the U.S. mobile advertising market; where the growth in the industry is. It's likely the picture in Canada is similar.

SOURCE: REPORT ON BUSINESS



Your essential daily news

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Stepping back from the abyss

MENTAL HEALTH

Author shares his hard-won wisdom of how to defeat depression

Henrietta Walmark
Metro | Canada



When Matt Haig was 24, he walked to the edge of a cliff, ready to step off and end his life. He had fallen into his first depressive state and very nearly committed suicide. Haig's memoir, *Reasons to Stay Alive* (HarperCollins, \$19.99), is rooted in that moment and the yearlong breakdown that followed.

A decade and a half later, the bestselling author of *The Radleys* and *The Humans* admits he was initially reluctant to share his history of depression and anxiety. "I was someone who hid behind the relative secur-

ity of fiction, who was the sort of writer who explored things in an abstract or indirect way," Haig, now 40, says during a phone interview from England. "For various reasons I was worried about putting pen to paper about this."

Haig needn't have worried. Although the book was released in Canada just last week, *Reasons to Stay Alive* launched a year ago in Britain where it became a Sunday Times best-seller and was lauded by Stephen Fry, Jeanette Winterson and Michael Palin.

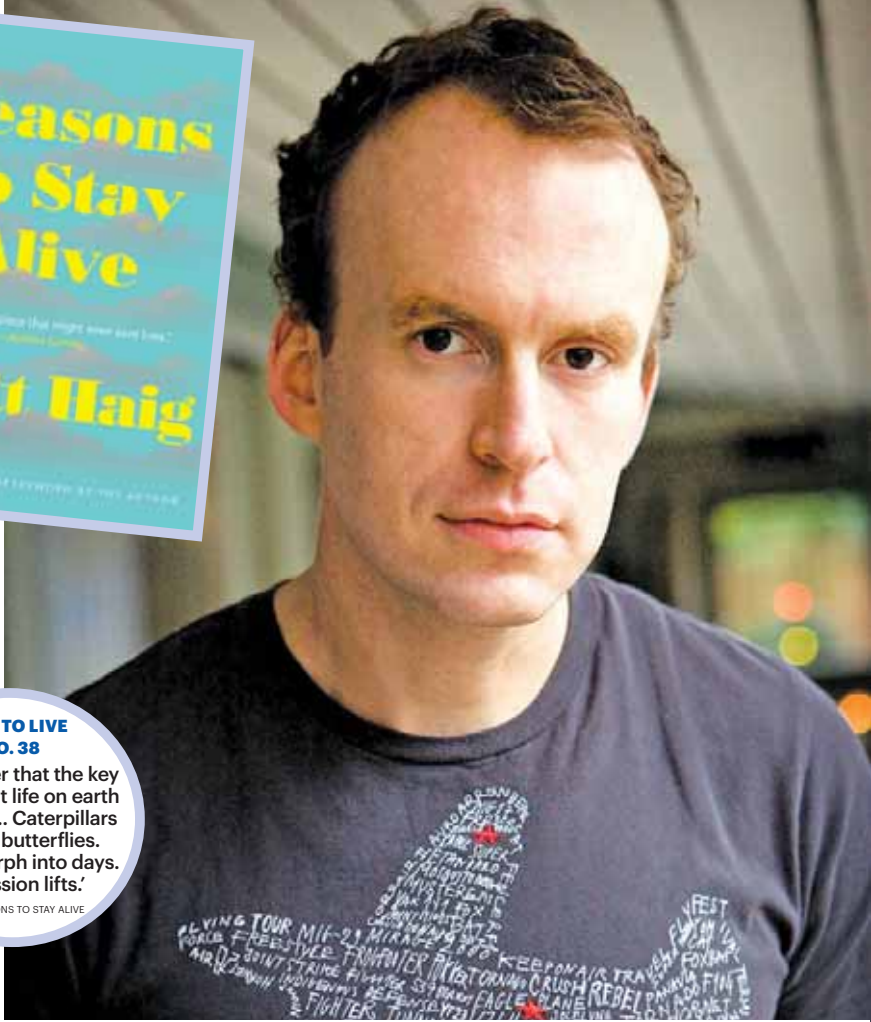
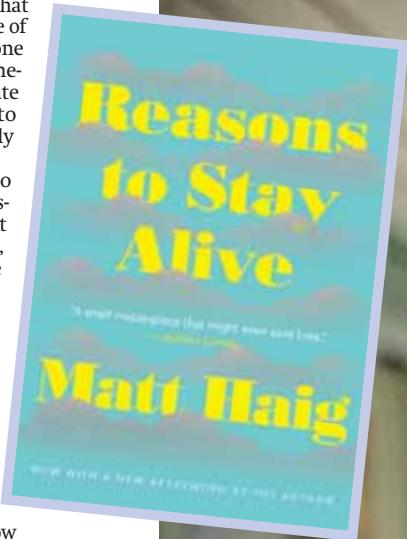
While the narrative thread of the book follows how Haig triumphed over his illness, *Reasons to Stay Alive* takes on a somewhat unconventional form. "Even as I was writing it, I was trying work out what the book was," Haig says. "I ignored thinking in terms of writing an academic book or a straightforward memoir or a straightforward self-help book."

All Haig cared about as he was writing, he says, was how to engage someone's attention. "I wanted to make a difference

to someone in that [depressive] state of mind, or someone who knows somebody in that state of mind, and to try and actually help them."

Reasons to Stay Alive is easily accessible. At just 200 pages, some of the book's chapters are as short as a single page or are comprised of lists like Things people say to depressives that they don't say in other life-threatening situations, or How to live (forty pieces of advice I feel to be helpful but which I don't always follow).

When asked what single piece of advice he would offer someone in a depressive state, Haig says, "Things change," and later adds: "Try and allow hope in, to realize that you will not stay in that place, that you will be a different person 10 years from now. Everything in your life will get better. Life is up and down but it will not stay the same. When you're feeling that pain, it's very important that you understand that."



HOW TO LIVE NO. 38

'Remember that the key thing about life on earth is change... Caterpillars become butterflies. Nights morph into days. Depression lifts.'

FROM REASONS TO STAY ALIVE

Author Matt Haig opens up about his depression in *Reasons to Stay Alive*. CONTRIBUTED

EXISTENCE RECONSIDERED

Life lessons extend beyond mental illness

"I don't wish depression on anyone, but from someone who's had depression, one of the ways of coming to terms with it is actually to be thankful for some of the stuff it gives you. It forces you to think about your existence in a different way," says Haig.

"It was just a natural thing of where depression led me, and also how depression can actually help people without depression — how there are life lessons which extend beyond the illness and how best to cope with it."



Greenpeace is urging all outdoor apparel companies to join its Detox My Fashion campaign that aims to quickly remove hazardous chemicals from the textiles industry. ISTOCK

ENVIRONMENTAL HAZARD

Most outdoor gear carries toxins: Study

Greenpeace said Monday that hazardous chemicals were "widely present" in a range of outdoor gear it tested, from clothing and footwear to backpacks, tents and sleeping bags.

The study showed toxic chemicals are "still widely present in products by brands such as Jack Wolfskin, The North Face, Patagonia, Marmot, Norrona and Salewa, especially in the production of footwear, trousers, sleeping bags and some jackets," said the report.

PFCs are used to add waterproof and dirt-repellent finish-

es to outdoor apparel, but are hazardous to the environment and human health, said the environmental activist group.

"Once released into the environment most PFCs break down very slowly. They can remain in the environment for many years after their release and are dispersed over the entire globe," the report said.

The pollutants have been found in secluded mountain lakes and snow, can accumulate in the livers of Arctic polar bears and be detected in human blood, the report said.

36 of 40

Greenpeace said out of 40 products tested, only four were free of per- and polyfluorinated chemicals (PFCs).

Greenpeace said studies had shown that some PFCs "can cause adverse impacts ... on the reproductive system and the immune system, as well as being potentially carcinogenic

in animal tests".

The group said an independent laboratory had tested 11 jackets and eight trousers, seven pairs of shoes, eight backpacks, two tents, two sleeping bags, one climbing rope and one pair of gloves.

The four products that did not contain PFCs were jackets by Vaude and Jack Wolfskin, a backpack by Haglöfs and a pair of gloves by The North Face, said Greenpeace, adding that this showed it is possible to produce outdoor gear without PFCs. AFP

Would you take placenta pills?

MOTHERHOOD

Critics worry about possible health risks of growing trend

Kim and Kourtney Kardashian have tried them. So have January Jones and Holly Madison. And in recent years, more and more new moms are popping capsules of dried, ground placenta.

It's a trend members of the medical community are noticing. Advocates tout the potential — albeit unproven — health benefits of the pills, from reduced rates of postpartum depression to a post-birth energy boost. At the same time, some health professionals are raising red flags about the possible health risks surrounding preparing and consuming the organ that nourishes a growing fetus.

The supplement-sized capsules are made from the woman's own placenta, which is expelled following the birth of her child. Moms who've tried the pills report an increase in milk supply and a sense of balanced hormones, says Meaghan Grant,

co-owner of Toronto Family Doula which is rolling out "placenta encapsulation" starting March 1.

Melanie Pereira, a 36-year-old mother of two from Mississauga, used the pills back in 2011 after the birth of her second child and sensed a boost in her emotion levels and milk production. "I felt amazing," she says.

While she knows it could be a placebo effect, Pereira thinks it's "wonderful" placenta pills have become more accessible to women in recent years, given the potential benefits.

But despite the growing popularity of placenta pills, none of the limited amount of scientific research available shows any benefits from the practice. A 2015 North-western Medicine review of 10 published studies on placentophagy — as in, ingesting the placenta — didn't turn up any human or animal data to back up claims that consuming placenta in pill or other forms reduces postpartum depression, boosts energy or aids in the increased production of breast milk.

None of the studies looked into the possible risks of ingesting the organ. "There's really no research in humans of any



Some new moms make art out of their placenta, while others choose to have pills made of it.

KELLY MASLEN/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE; INSET: LUCAS OLENIUK/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

benefit (of ingesting the placenta) that's been published — there's nothing," says Dr. Amanda Selk, an obstetrician-gynecologist at Women's College Hospital. "And we don't have any safety data either."

Selk says women should con-

sider the limited research and possible risks. "When you deliver, there are a lot of body fluids close together. You might have a bowel movement and it might touch the placenta. We can't promise it's not contaminated," she says.

Regardless of where placenta

pills are prepared, there simply isn't research available yet on safe preparation, says Dr. Selk. "We don't actually know what's safe — what preparation is safe, if high temperatures would kill bacteria and viruses," Selk says.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

+ FAST FACTS

Are placenta pills vegetarian-friendly?

The placenta is a human organ but plenty of vegetarian and vegan moms make an exception when it comes to eating afterbirth. An exploration of vegan and vegetarian message boards reveals some women eat raw placenta.

Parting with your placenta

Placenta encapsulation isn't the only way women make use of their placenta giving birth. Over the years, various options have emerged, allowing moms creative ways to use the placenta.

Afterbirth artwork

Some doulas offer a service where a fresh placenta is pressed against paper to create a blood-stained print, revealing the unique tree-like structure of the organ in an artistic keepsake.

Plant placenta

Some women keep their placenta and plant it in the ground — often as a ceremony after giving birth to provide nutrients for a newly-planted tree.

Winnie Boxer Mix

At only 2 years young, Winnie is looking for a lifelong friend/family to call her own. Being a boxer mix, she is full of vitality and is hoping to find a family able to provide a suitable outlet for all of her energy. She has many lovable qualities, but her most endearing is her comical underbite! Winnie is seeking a home with children 16 years of age or older due to her lack of restraint when excited. A home with no other pets would also be ideal. **If you have what Winnie needs, please visit her soon.**



For more information on **Winnie** and other adoptable furry friends, visit www.spcans.ca/dartmouthshelter or contact the Nova Scotia SPCA Provincial Animal Shelter at 902-468-7877 or dartmouth@spcans.ca

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METRO IS A PROUD SUPPORTER OF ADOPT AN ANIMAL WITH THE SPCA

NEW BOOK

Pope answers kids' queries

Dear Pope Francis, 10-year-old Mohammed begins, "Will the world be again as it was in the past?"

Signed "Respectfully yours," the boy wrote from a Jesuit-run school for refugee children in Syria and was treated to a long and personal answer from the pope himself. So were 29 other children who posed questions to Francis in letters from around the globe for a new book illustrated with their own artwork.

The book, *Dear Pope Francis*, is out March 1 from Loyola Press

in Chicago. It's a project that likely wouldn't have materialized without the help of Father Antonio Spadaro, a Jesuit like the pope and the director of *La Civiltà Cattolica*, a Roman Catholic journal published in Rome.

Tom McGrath of the Jesuit-founded publishing house co-edited the book with Spadaro after reaching out to the priest. Spadaro brought about 50 letters with questions to the pope so he could select 30. Spadaro sat with the pope as he responded to each.

The pope's response to

Mohammed spoke in part of suffering and the people who inflict it: "There are those who manufacture weapons so that people fight each other and wage war. There are people who have hate in their hearts. There are people who are interested only in money and would sell everything for it. They would even sell other people," he wrote.

Francis answered: "No, when the time comes, the world will not be as it was. It will be far better than it was in the past."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Join our online reader panel and help make your Metro even better.
metronews.ca/panel



CONTRIBUTED

Summer arriving early

The March of Dimes camp will have campfires and so many activities it will almost feel like summer.

It's an overnight camp for kids and youth aged three to 24 who have neurological motor conditions such as cerebral palsy. It runs March 12 to 16 at Brigadoon Village. There will be activities such as campfires, arts and crafts, music, as well as conductive education classes which teach skills for independence.

"In addition to learning new skills for a more independent and active lifestyle, this camp offers a great social experience for campers," says Brittany Jennings with March of Dimes Canada. "They are able to share stories, challenges and successes with other campers."

For some campers, this is often the first time away, giving them independence and a chance to learn how to take care of themselves.

"I like the camp because of the food, kick sledding and the conductive education," says Alex, a March break camper. "I had fun and I am looking forward to this year."

Campers under 15 are asked to have a caregiver attend camp with them. Caregivers can take classes too, giving them the opportunity to meet other caregivers and share their experiences. They can also speak with the camp's conductors about new techniques for personal care they can use at home.

"It is a great program for parents to get a break from the kids knowing that they are in a safe environment," says Tammy, a parent.

ACTING CAMP OFFERS UP SOME FUN FOR EVERYONE

Got a little wizard, princess or Broadway singer at home? Neptune Theatre School has just the right camp to help them explore their creative side this March break.

"We have some musical theatre, improv, and fundamentals of acting camps," says Chuck Homewood, theatre school director. "They're for all ages, from ages 4 all the way to 18."

Camps run March 14-18 at the Shambhala School, 5450 Russell St. in Halifax, where there's plenty of parking and easy drop-off and pick-up.

Neptune camps offer something for every child: Fairy tales and Legends for four- to six-year-olds; Wizards of Neptune Theatre for seven- to nine-year-olds; Ready Set...Improv and Broadway Bound for 10- to 12-year-olds, and Live from Halifax for 13- to 18-year-olds.

There's a lot of physical activity along with the fun and games of learning how to act, Homewood says. Kids will participate in cross-camp activities like scavenger hunts and mini-Olympics.

Throughout the week, kids will gain confidence, learn new skills, get a whole lot of



CONTRIBUTED

exercise, but, most important, interact with each other and make new friends.

"The socialization is huge for us," Homewood says. "We do a little 20-minute performance at the end of the week for family and friends, but it's not about memorizing lines or costumes. We're more about kids getting along with kids, learning how to learn together."

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Canada's Jamal Murray was named SEC freshman of the week after averaging 18.5 points and seven rebounds in a pair of Kentucky wins

Backhand compliments

AUSTRALIAN OPEN

Raonic no longer a servant to the power game

Milos Raonic has always turned heads with his big serve. Now that he's improved his play at the net, the Canadian tennis star is even more dangerous.

Raonic advanced to the quarter-finals of the Australian Open for the second straight year, defeating 2014 champion Stan Wawrinka 6-4, 6-3, 5-7, 4-6, 6-3 Monday in a marathon match lasting three hours, 44 minutes.

The 13th seed from Thornhill, Ont., improved to 8-0 this season and downed a former Australian Open champion for a second time. He tuned up for the year's first Grand Slam by defeating 17-time Grand Slam champion Roger Federer in the final of the Brisbane Open.

Raonic attributes his success this season to his improved volleying.

"I think it's what helped me win in Brisbane," he said. "It's what helped me win my first three matches here, is that comfort and confidence of going forward."

"But not even just that. In the off-season I spent a lot of time up at the net. So it's not

just about confidence, it's about an understanding of what I need to do, where you go in certain situations, how not only to finish the points, how to defend a little bit better at the net and how to cover and move better to make the opponent think."

Raonic said he had a lot of time to analyze and tweak his game while dealing with a series of frustrating injuries last season.

Raonic, who lost to the fourth-seeded Wawrinka in their four previous meetings, improved to 18-5 in Melbourne and 47-19 at Grand Slams.

Raonic was cruising with a lead of two sets to love when his game suddenly derailed. Wawrinka stormed back to win the third and fourth sets but Raonic

was able to close it out in the fifth, finishing the match with 24 aces, 82 winners and five breaks of serve.

"I'm very happy with the way I played, the way I competed, the way I turned things around after having the momentum against me going into the fifth," he said. "At the same time, as happy as I am, my mind's already on what's the process for my next challenge. I'm always looking for ways to get better."

Raonic next faces Gael Monfils, the Frenchman who beat Russian Andrey Kuznetsov 7-5, 3-6, 6-3, 7-6 (4). THE CANADIAN PRESS

Do I wish I was more like somebody else?
No.

Milos Raonic



Milos Raonic meets his growing fan base following his victory against Stan Wawrinka.

SAEED KHAN/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

IN BRIEF

Graham James granted day parole in Quebec

Graham James, the disgraced former junior hockey coach who sexually abused several players under his watch more than two decades ago, was granted day parole Monday.

James, 62, appeared before the National Parole Board at a federal prison in Laval, Que., where the ruling was handed down after a four-hour hearing.

He is currently serving a seven-year sentence

for sexually assaulting players he coached in the late 1980s and early '90s with the Swift Current Broncos of the Western Hockey League.

James, who was seeking full parole, has been convicted of sexually assaulting six of his former players hundreds of times during that period.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Graham James
THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

Suspicious betting linked to mixed doubles match

Players involved in a mixed doubles match at the Australian Open said Monday they were interviewed by the Tennis Integrity Unit after a newspaper reported it had attracted suspicious betting patterns.

According to The New York Times report, the gambling website Pinnacle Sports said it had received an unusual spike in bets for Lukasz Kubot and Andrea Hlavackova to beat David Marrero and Lara Arruabarrena, causing it to suspend betting before the teams played on Sunday.

All players identified in the newspaper report rejected any possibility of fixing in the match, which was won by Kubot and Hlavackova 6-0, 6-3.

Kubot said Monday "we give 100 per cent of that match" and he believed his opponents "were trying 100 per cent."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NFL

Manning \$2M richer

Peyton Manning earned back half of the \$4 million pay cut he accepted last winter by leading the Denver Broncos back to the Super Bowl.

He can recoup the rest with a win over Carolina in two weeks.

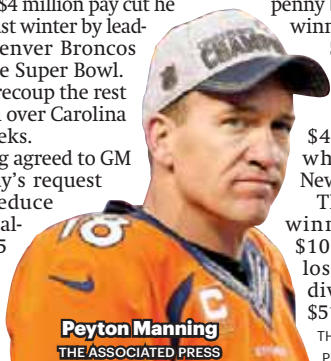
Manning agreed to GM John Elway's request that he reduce his 2015 salary to \$15 million. But he did so with the

that he could earn back every penny by getting to and winning Super Bowl 50.

Each member of the Broncos earned \$46,000 Sunday when they beat New England 20-18.

The Super Bowl winners each get \$102,000 and the losing team's individual share is \$51,000.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Peyton Manning
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

MLB clears Yu Darvish of any wrongdoing

A person familiar with the investigation says Major League Baseball has determined that Texas Rangers pitcher Yu Darvish had no role in any of the activities that led to the arrest of his brother in Japan for allegedly running an illegal gambling ring. MLB was looking into the October arrest of Sho Darvish as part of standard protocol and not investigating the pitcher, the source said Monday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

THOMAS DAVIS

Broken arm, still Super Bowl-bound

All-Pro linebacker Thomas Davis had surgery Monday morning on his broken right forearm, but is expected to play in the Super Bowl on Feb. 7.

Head coach Ron Rivera said the 11-year NFL veteran may need to wear a brace on his arm similar to the one worn by New England Patriots tight end Rob Gronkowski.

Davis broke his arm in the second quarter of Carolina's 49-15 win over the Arizona Cardinals on Sunday in the NFC

If everything goes well it is something he can mostly certainly play with.
Head coach Ron Rivera

championship. Davis said after the game he fully expected to play in the Super Bowl in about two weeks.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

RECIPE Black Bean Burgers



PHOTO: MAYA VISNTEI

Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada



Who says vegetarian dinners have to be virtuous? Not us. You won't miss the beef in these zesty, hearty veggie burgers.

Ready in

Prep time: 10 minutes

Total time: 20 minutes

Serves 4

Ingredients

- 2 x 14 oz cans of black beans, rinsed
- 1 egg
- 1/4 cup of panko or regular bread crumbs
- 2 tsp cumin
- 1 tsp dried oregano
- 1/4 tsp cayenne
- 1/4 cup fresh cilantro
- 3 Tbsp oil

Directions

1. Place 1 can of beans, panko, cumin, oregano, cayenne and egg into a blender. Pulse it together until it forms a goopy paste.

2. Empty the blender contents into a bowl. Stir in the other can of beans and the cilantro. Use your hands to form into patties. Don't make them too big or you'll have hard time with flipping.

3. Heat oil in a pan to medium then gently place patties in. Cook for 5 minutes — without touching! — then carefully flip with a thin, flexible spatula. Cook for another 5 minutes on the other side. Serve on a bun with your favourite toppings, like tomato, avocado, lettuce, salsa, spicy mayo.

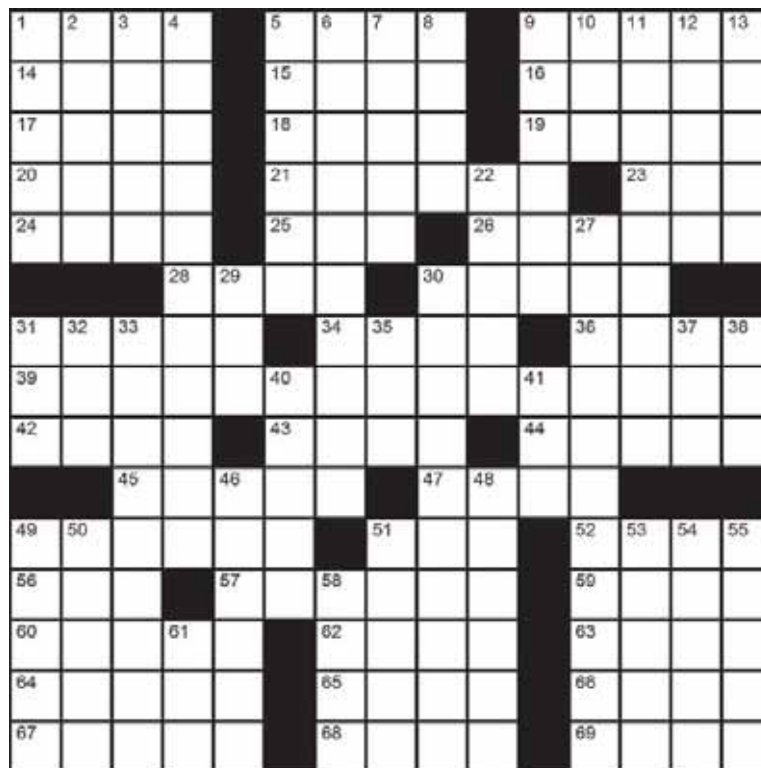
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CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN

ACROSS

- Requiring-directions reason
5. notes (Quiz-taker's no-no)
9. Aspect
14. Stagnate
15. Comedian Jay
16. Earthy hue
17. Not ever, in verse
18. Klutzes
19. Rule on the throne
20. Achiever
21. Horror movie franchise starring Neve Campbell
23. Negative word
24. —inflammatory
25. 7th Greek letter
26. Football legend Joe who was a New York Jets quarterback
28. Ms. Spelling
30. Air Canada employee
31. Peggy —, "Mad Men" role
34. Depilatory brand
36. Forsaken
39. Canadian — (Train company)
42. Petri dish gel
43. Mr. Redding
44. Faultfinder
45. Style, as per music or movies
47. Banff National Park animals
49. Adjust ahead of time
51. Health resort
52. Smashes



- "I don't get it."
57. Beat
59. Grand
60. Denigrate
62. Hang over
63. Vogue's Ms. Wintour
64. Mount of the Bible

- Coastal bird, variably
- Put a 'roof' on a room
- Concluded
- Olde-style reward
- Door fastener

DOWN

- Ms. Ronstadt
- Ancient theatre
- Winter weather woe
- NWT's equivalent in French is TNO which means: — du Nord-Ouest

- Nearer
- Make an expired membership usable again
- Prefix with 'red'
- Music systems company as seen on The Shopping Channel
- Posh party
- Card deck symbol
- Historic neighbourhood of Vancouver
- Farm grain problem
- Wedding anniversary for tin
- Rita's role in "West Side Story" (1961)
- Coffee hangout on "The Beachcombers": 2 wds.
- "Thou, too, sail — Ship of State!" — Longfellow
- Name of Nick Adonidas' log salvaging boat on the show at #27-Down
- _ whim
- Fall behind
- Theatrical gig
- Mr. Roth
- Movie star, Aishwarya —
- Big Apple
- Bay, Ontario
- "Eeew!"
- Sea nymph in Greek mythology
- Hightailed it
- Chapter of sorts
- Apply, as skin moisturizer: 2 wds.
- The Comedy — (Stand-up venue in Los Angeles)
- Sleep problem
- Subcompacts
- Illegally sell concert tickets
- Cosmology stuff in space
- Freelancer's encl.

IT'S ALL IN THE STARS by Sally Brompton

Aries March 21 - April 20
The critics may say you've been lucky, and maybe you have, but luck is only part of the story — you do in fact deserve your success. Now do something with what you've got, not just for yourself but for others too.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
Put a name to your desires. What is it that drives you? What is it that you want most out of life. Once you have decided that the next step is easy: go out and get it.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
If you're not planning a trip then you should be. Cosmic activity in the area of your chart that governs long-distance travel will inspire you to expand your horizons.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
A problem you have tried to deal with by pretending it does not exist will come back at you again today. Be prepared to do whatever it takes to change your life for the better.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
Honesty is essential, even if it means you have to say something that might hurt a loved one's feelings. You have a reputation for calling it as you see it, give it to them straight.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
You are right to be proud of what you have achieved, so let the world know what you have done and let people in positions of authority know you intend to do even more in the future. Spread the word.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
The Sun in Aquarius is sure to bring something good your way. Also, this is one of the best times of the year to start something new!

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
You need to put a family squabble behind you and begin a new chapter of domestic harmony. You cannot change the past but you can change your attitude towards it, so forgive, forget and move on — together.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Information that arrives out of the blue will help you make sense of something that previously baffled you. It will also help you distinguish between those who are on your side and those who only pretend to be.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Now is the time to fix your financial situation. Cosmic activity in the main money area of your chart will help you make changes that, while painful in the short-term, will yield rewards in the long-term.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
There is no need to worry and there is no need to hurry. The Sun in your birth sign promises wonderful things — all you have to do is sit back.

Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20
If you want something enough you will find a way to get it. Nothing is impossible. If your desire is strong enough you can make it happen. Dare to dream — and dare to believe that dreams really do come true.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9



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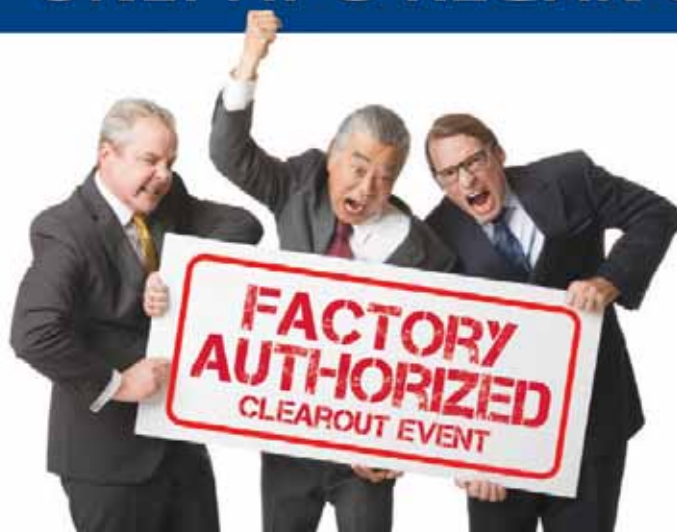
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